

## **AVP-AU E-NEWS, January 2008**

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## **II WIKIS – HOW TO JOIN & USE**

AVP(NSW) has developed a series of wikis on [www.wikispaces.com](http://www.wikispaces.com) as a platform for timely distribution of updates and revisions of learning activities, and for sharing facilitation experiences and information on administration issues.

- [www.avpmanuals.wikispaces.com](http://www.avpmanuals.wikispaces.com) – is a private wiki on learning activities and other material from manuals and is available to AVP facilitators only
- [www.avpclearinghouse.wikispaces.com](http://www.avpclearinghouse.wikispaces.com) - is a private wiki on non-manual information such as articles, reports and administration matters and is available to AVP facilitators only (under construction)
- [www.avpaustralia.wikispaces.com](http://www.avpaustralia.wikispaces.com) – is a public wiki with promotion information about AVP (under construction)
- [www.transformingconflict.wikispaces.com](http://www.transformingconflict.wikispaces.com) - is a public wiki for teachers of experiential conflict transformation in the classroom (under construction)

### **INSTRUCTIONS HOW TO ACCESS/JOIN THE AVPMANUAL WIKI**

- A To search a public wiki on the wikispace website you simply visit the web address eg.  
[www.transformingconflict.wikispaces.com](http://www.transformingconflict.wikispaces.com)
- B To visit the private and public AVP wikis AVP facilitators visit [www.avpmanuals.wikispaces.com](http://www.avpmanuals.wikispaces.com) and use the newly created AVP generic username and password  
Username – avpguest Password – affirmation

This password will be regularly changed. Contact [avpsydney@avp.org.au](mailto:avpsydney@avp.org.au) for the current password.

- C To join a private wiki you need to be invited to join each individual wiki by a wiki coordinator and to have your own wikispace account.

## **INSTRUCTIONS – HOW TO JOIN A PRIVATE WIKI**

1. Send an email with the following details to [avpsydney@avp.org.au](mailto:avpsydney@avp.org.au) requesting membership of one or more of the AVP private wikis. Include in the email your name, email address, AVP group affiliation and which wikispace/s you would like to join
2. An AVP wiki coordinator will set up an invitation for you to join the wiki/s list
3. You will receive an emailed invitation from Wikispaces inviting you to join Wikispaces. Click on the link in the email
4. You will be invited to either:
  - Logon with your existing account username and password
  - or create a new wikispace account with your own username, password and email address
5. Once signed into your wiki account, you click on the invitation to accept membership of each wiki
6. You can then start searching or browsing the wikis.

Katherine & Malcolm Smith  
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## **III 2007 REPORTS FROM THE AUSTRALIAN AVP GROUPS**

<https://avpclearinghouse.wikispaces.com/2007+AVP-Oz>

## **IV I MESSAGES**

David will be running a session on Sat 26 January at the NG'08. He will be exploring a 'missing' part of the I-messages learning activity. The background reading for the session is available at - <https://avpmanuals.wikispaces.com/I-Messages+Pt.2#>  
username: avpguest    password: affirmation

## **V AVP-WA PROJECT OFFICER EVALUATION**

<https://avpclearinghouse.wikispaces.com/AVP-Western+Australia>

username: avpguest password: affirmation

## **VI VOLUNTEER AWARD**

In December 2007 Sabine Erika (AVP-NSW Prison Group) was awarded Volunteer of the Year for the Western District of NSW. The award was given to her for the work she has been doing in NSW prisons with AVP, the Alternatives to Violence Project. The judges were also interested in the work she has been doing with parolees and the residents of rehabilitation centres. She has also been involved with the international Zonta organisation which works for the human rights of women. In this capacity she has together with her club, provided support for women in jail, refuge women and women rescued from slavery in Sydney.

## **VII AVP(NSW) PAROLEES WORKSHOPS**

Some time ago the AVP prison team was approached by the Parole Board to do some workshops with parolees. This proved to be a very difficult task as the participants were reluctant given that they had been ordered by the Magistrate to attend. The team tried to look at the voluntary aspect in terms of the participants volunteering their knowledge and experience and tried to explain the nature of the course to the Parole Board. It was a dismal failure. A new parole officer in an adjoining area was prepared to look at the voluntary aspect quite seriously. He has recruited men who live in a drug rehabilitation centre, sent by the courts, and has agreed with the AVP team that only those who wish to do it may do it. The team has agreed to run some courses in the new year.

Sabine [AVP-NSW Blue Mts & Prison Group Co-ordinator]

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## **VIII DARWIN AVP**

Yes, Darwin has an AVP group. Renate Kelaher and Sabine Erika visited Darwin at the invitation of two Quakers to run AVP for a group interested in becoming facilitators in the Darwin jail and in some community centres. We arrived to a very warm welcome on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November and left on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>. In between we ran a Basic and an Advanced course with a most enthusiastic and varied group which included two doctors, a psychologist, a Salvation Army counsellor, a landscape gardener and a chef. It was an exciting experience to participate with such a giving group. Even those initially shy opened up as a true community emerged and vulnerabilities were allowed to flourish. We learned a lot from debriefs and reviews. There were tears and laughter aplenty. Elizabeth Kwan looked after us magnificently with delicious tropical meals and curries made by her husband. At the end we were delighted to see that they formed themselves into an

AVP Darwin group under the auspices of Darwin Quakers and with a bank account! They agreed to meet once a month and practice some of the exercises. A T for F will run there in the New Year. For us it was one of the most exciting AVP experiences and reinforced once again what a great programme it is.

Sabine [AVP-NSW Blue Mts & Prison Group Co-ordinator]

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